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TICKET, 1E

Herald-Tribune

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For landowners, wind turbines often mean stable lease payments. Those were historically around \$3,000 to \$5,000 per turbine per year, with some modern agreements \$5,000 to \$10,000 annually, secured through 20- to 30-year contracts.

GETTY IMAGES

Paul Mwebaze University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | THE CONVERSATION

Drive through the plains of Iowa or Kansas and you'll see more than rows of corn, wheat and soybeans. You'll also see towering wind turbines spinning above fields and solar panels shining in the sun on barns and machine sheds. • For many farmers, these are lifelines. Renewable energy provides steady income and affordable power, helping farms stay viable when crop prices fall or drought strikes. • But some of that opportunity is now at risk as the Trump administration cuts federal support for renewable energy.

Wind power brings steady income for farms

Wind energy is a significant economic driver in rural America. In Iowa, for example, over 60% of the state's electricity came from wind energy in 2024, and the state is a hub for wind turbine manufacturing and maintenance jobs.

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to 30-year contracts.

Nationwide, wind and solar projects contribute about \$3.5 billion annually in combined lease payments and state and local taxes, more than a third of it going directly to rural landowners.

The Sustainably Co-locating Agricultural and Photovoltaic Electricity Systems project, led by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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In 2024, 93% of all new electricity generating capacity was wind, solar or energy storage, and the U.S. Energy Information Administration expected a similar percentage in 2025 as of June.

Experts talk Cook fraud accusation

Fed governor the third rival or official Trump has accused in 2025

Andrea Riquier and Kathryn Palmer
USA TODAY

The announcement from President Donald Trump on Aug. 25 that he was firing Federal Reserve Governor Lisa Cook amounts to an extraordinary weaponization of the housing finance system that depends on private, deeply personal data from millions of Americans, experts said the following day.

In a post on Truth Social, Trump claimed "sufficient cause" to remove Cook immediately, pointing to accusations that she had made false statements on mortgage applications, and bringing the president one step closer to shaping the balance of the Fed's seven-member



Federal Reserve Governor Lisa Cook.
SAUL LOEB/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

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Venice eyes reduction in property tax rate

Earle Kimel
Sarasota Herald-Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK

VENICE – The Venice City Council indicated a desire to adopt the reduce property tax rate to keep revenues flat when it approves the 2025-26 fiscal year budget in September.

That "rolled-back" rate of 3.845 mills compared with the current millage rate of 3.9041 mills would trim about \$419,000 from property tax revenue collections.

One mill represents \$1 in property taxes for every \$1,000 in taxable value.

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